



*ST. BERNARD MIZEKI MEN'S
GUILD*



18th TRIENNIAL PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

DIOCESE OF KIMBERLY AND KURUMAN

27th SEPTEMBER - 01st OCTOBER 2017

EXECUTIVE REPORT

2014 - 2017

FROM:

JESUS FOR AFRICA, AFRICA FOR JESUS

TO:

*JOURNEYING WITH CHRIST IN CHALLENGING
TIMES*

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1 The 2014 17th Triennial Conference

The Conference was hosted by the Diocese of Port Elizabeth in Port Elizabeth at Nangoza Jebe Hall, New Brighton from 18 June – 22 June 2014. The theme of the Conference was, “*Jesus for Africa, Africa for Jesus*”. The 2014 Conference was a Conference with a difference, for the first time the Provincial Guild celebrated Bernard Mizeki’s life, the 120th years of Bernard Mizeki’s assassination, and for the first time the Conference was hosted during June to coincide with Bernard Mizeki’s commemoration date, that is, 18 June. The Conference was marked by a lot of first times, the Key Note address by Archbishop Thabo, a panel discussion was also one of the Conference features which was presided by the current Dean of COTT, Rev Dr. V Kgabe and a Guest Panelist was Mr. Tyatyeka who is well known for his passion for Xhosa Traditions and Cultures, Bishops Bethlehem and Nathaniel (may his soul rest in peace) and a number of Priests. The Conference’s purpose was also about raising Social Funds with the hope of opening a Social Relief Fund account; this noble idea was defeated by PEXCO divisions and poor planning.

The Conference also introduced the Best Performance Awards, one award was for iNdodana and three awards were for the Dioceses. Criterion was stipulated for all awards, and the Best iNdodana award went to the late Father Douglas Msuthu and the three Dioceses were Grahamstown, Christ The King and George respectively.

2 Provincial Executive Committee

The following Executive members were elected during the 2014 17th Triennial Conference:

Table 1: PEXCO

Name and Surname	Portfolio
Rev Elliot Masoka	President
Bro. Mxolisi Tsika	Chairman
Bro. Lindile Batwa	Secretary
Bro. Khehla Dube	Deputy Secretary
Bro. Monwabisi Genu	Treasurer
Rev Lulamile Tyali	Chaplain
Bro. Fezile Maki	Communications Officer
Bro. Pule Bosega	Social Responsibility Officer
Rev Sivuyile Myeko	Training and Development Officer
Bro. Sesinyi Pule	Legal Advisor

Bro. Pule Bosega later resigned from PEXCO in September 2015 citing increased worked related responsibilities which included a lot of travel in and outside South Africa. Bro. Bosega was never replaced. During the Provincial Council Meetings, it was also noted that there was a challenge with Treasury, this led to a reshuffle that PEXCO recommended to the Provincial Council and was adopted. The PEXCO was later reshuffled as follows:

Table 2: Reshuffled PEXCO

Name and Surname	Portfolio
Rev Elliot Masoka	President
Bro. Mxolisi Tsika	Chairman
Bro. Fezile Maki	Secretary
Bro. Monwabisi Genu	Deputy Secretary
Bro. Lindile Batwa	Treasurer
Rev Lulamile Tyali	Chaplain
Bro. Fezile Maki	Communications Officer
Rev Sivuyile Myeko	Social Responsibility Officer
Bro. Khehla Dube	Training and Development Officer
Bro. Pule Sesinyi	Legal Advisor

3 Social Responsibility Term

The first PEXCO meeting convened in the Diocese of Grahamstown in East London at St. Andrews, Mdantsane from the 14th August – 16th August 2014. East London was considered to be a central venue for the meeting, the gesture was informed by lack of funds and the costs to host PEXCO meetings. The meeting's foremost purpose was to craft a three (3) year plan and in so doing it considered a number of resolutions, PEXCO considered amongst other resolutions that its current term to be a Social Responsibility term and the following resolutions were key to the discussions:

- That the Social Responsibility Officer prioritise registering the Guild as an NPO
- That he be assisted by the Legal Advisor, Secretary and the Training and Development Officer
- That the PEXCO members be registered as the Board of Trustees of the Guild
- That Dioceses be encouraged to also register as the NPOs, consider budgeting 10% of their funds, non-monetary items and their time towards social development programmes and to also form partnerships with social development Organisations within their respective Dioceses
- That the Social Responsibility Officer present a list of proposed social responsibility events, liaising with Dioceses to ascertain their planned programmes and the purpose is to diversify the Guild

After well thought considerations, it has been noted that the registration of an NPO will actually expose the Guild to unnecessary responsibilities such as:

- To have full time members that will be registered as Board of Trustees or Board of Directors
- To submit Annual Audited Financial Statements, in a format specified by the National Government
- The Guild would need to have a full time Auditor or to have an Auditing firm that will assist it on full time basis
- To submit quarterly reports to donors and Department of Social Development

These are not only limited to the above-mentioned responsibilities but these are also negatively influenced by the Guild's shortcomings that would include but not limited to:

- The Guild does not have an office and the Guild's documents are stored in the boot of the Executive's members cars
- None of the Executive members is full time
- The Guild's core business is evangelism, which was not necessarily properly unpacked by the March 2016 PCM and this does not encompass development

PEXCO proposed that the registration be halted until such time that the Guild is ready to become a registered NPO.

4 PEXCO and PC Meetings

The Diocese of False Bay has previously proposed that the number of Provincial Council meetings be reduced to one and extend the number of days of the meeting. The proposal was discussed at an appropriate platform but was referred to PEXCO for an in-depth analysis considering the cost involved and whether the proposal will do justice to the work of the Guild.

An analysis was done and tabled at both PEXCO and PCM, based on the analysis it was resolved that after the 18th Triennial Conference there would be one PEXCO and PCM per annum.

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The meetings of the Guild both PEXCO, PCM and Conference to remain as was previously planned, to be hosted between the inland and coastal towns. The following were the minor changes to the previous structure of meetings:

- PEXCO meetings should not to be hosted in the Diocese that will be hosting the PCM but rather closer to that Diocese in order for it to be able to be visible to as many Dioceses as it possibly can
- PCMs move from February to first week of March in order to allow enough time for planning and to also have equal number of months in between the meetings

5 Fundraising Effort

The Guild is currently having no structure fundraising efforts, there is also no provision within the Constitution of the Guild except for the membership fees being paid by individual members. The other fundraising mechanism that the Guild has recently introduced is the Annual Fees payable not later than end of January of each year by Dioceses.

i) GENLIFE

Genlife funeral policy was introduced to the Guild by the previous Executive but it was not finalized. After several presentations by Genlife to both the PEXCO and PCMs, it was adopted as the fundraising effort that the Guild would engage in. The plan structure with different options was presented and adopted, concerns were raised and resolved and the most common being whether the Diocesan Bishops were informed of the plan or not. A meeting with the ACSA's PEO (Fr. W Mostert) and Treasurer (Mr R Rogerson) was held in Cape Town on 02 June 2016 and later a meeting with Genlife CEO (Mrs. L Heislitz-Venter), an approval to go ahead with the plan was also given by the Church and the following was communicated to the Guilders via Notice no. 5 of 2016 on 16 June 2016:

- The office of the PEO will issue a letter of support of the scheme to all Diocesan Bishops upon receipt of the revised Genlife Agreement
- The Provincial Church has assured the Guild of its support in the implementation of the Scheme as a means of fundraising for purposes of being financially independent
- Genlife would revise the Scheme Agreement to include an addendum that clearly clarifies the Guild's Referral Fee percentage and a monthly date of the Fee payment into the Guild's account
- The implementation date of the Scheme was revised to 01 August 2016
- The annual premiums remain to curb losses in bank administrative charges that are higher than the proposed monthly premiums
- Each Diocese must identify not less than 2 members that must be registered under the Genlife license as Jurisdiction Representatives (JRs). This is a prerequisite for anyone to be able to explain the Scheme brochure to anyone
- Fully filled forms together with the proof of payment will be directly sent to Genlife, no longer to the Diocesan Secretaries and Provincial Secretary
- The age limit has been increased to 90 years old but this age group will only be covered to a maximum amount of R 5000.00

The Diocesan Secretaries and their DEXCOs showed no interest in selling the idea to their respective Dioceses, this has been evident through the non-adherence to extended implementation dates. No single Diocese reported the reasons for not selling even after the effort of convening meetings with ACSAs PEO and Treasurer. PEXCO recommended that the idea to be aborted since it started to be a financial burden to the Guild which was extremely contrary to its initial purpose.

The Guild also planned to sell the Conference DVDs, the 2011 and the 2014 Conferences. The idea was never well thought as the Conferences produced a multiple number of DVDs which proved to be difficult to merge into one or two DVDs that can be sold to members. It has been agreed by PEXCO that the 2017 Conference must not be covered in its entirety but certain important Conference parts with the hope that this will resolve the issue of multiple DVDs.

6 Guild's Book Project

The strategic session in February 2012 decided that a history of the Guild should be documented. Pursuant to this decision the President and Legal advisor visited a Senior lecturer who is an Anglican Priest (Dr. Mbaya) at the University of Stellenbosch. The purpose of the visit was to request him to lead the process of writing a book about the life of Bernard Mizeki and the history of the Guild. Though he agreed in principle that he would lead the project he later withdrew from the project citing other research commitments. The Council meeting suggested some other names, but the project could not get off the ground.

The September 2015 PCM in Natal reignited the discussion and it was decided that a book about the life of the Guild must be documented, PEXCO was mandated to commence with the Project and report to PCM regularly. Dr. Mbaya was once again engaged, he showed enthusiasm in writing the book and he proposed the following:

- The book will be written in a form of a research, over a period of 3 years
- The title of the book will be "**Proudly Southern African...The History of Bernard Mizeki movement**" which will be about 320 pages
- He will be assisted by 2 researchers, research points will be Wits University, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban
- Costs to be involved would be for Publishing Costs (making use of Sun Media Publishers that has the Peer Review including printing) – current cost R 30 000 + Travelling Costs to research points

PEXCO has in the meantime discussed with Dr. Henry Mbaya how it perceived that the project should be approached including timelines:

- The research should be more of qualitative study doing one on one interviews with specific old members and making use of questionnaires
- The secondary study should be the document study
- Dr Mbaya may be advised to meet Bro. Jonas and other old members of the Guild from all Dioceses
- The Guild will further engage Dr Mbaya on what needs to be covered and what the hypothesis is
- The Chairman will draft the terms of reference but in the mean time the Guild must do its own research by requesting each Diocese to provide PEXCO with names of old people who have the history of the Guild during the Lesotho PCM (the names must be submitted to the Deputy Secretary)

It has been a difficult task to secure a date of a meeting with Dr. Henry Mbaya due to schedules that were continuously clashing. The last time an agreement was reached with him was when he were to visit the Diocese of Grahamstown for the Diocesan Synod but later reported that his meeting has been rescheduled for a date which was not pronounced. PEXCO has resolved that the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer meet Dr. Mbaya in order to finalise the processes, but the meeting could not be scheduled due to lack of funds. It is therefore recommended that the incoming Provincial Executive Committee to finalize the project without any delays.

7 Guild's Proposed Documents

The Guild through PEXCO has committed to finalize during the 18th Triennial Provincial Conference the Guild's Service Booklet, the Training Manual, the Grievances Procedures, the Disciplinary Procedures, the Motions Procedures and the Elections Procedures. The first two mentioned booklets were to be completed in various languages such as isiXhosa, English, Sesotho, Sepedi, Afrikaans and isiZulu. The Service Booklet is available in isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sesotho, seTswana, Afrikaans and English, whilst the Training Manual has been translated in English, Afrikaans, isiZulu and Sepedi, the following languages are outstanding, isiXhosa and Sesotho. Dioceses will receive copies at a cost that will be determined by the Conference, each Diocese will receive a number equaling their registered membership number.

The Chairman has on behalf of the Legal Advisor prepared the Elections and Motions Procedures which were circulated to all Dioceses for comment and consideration. No comments were received by the Secretariat desk and the documents were deemed satisfactory to be used. It must be noted that both documents will be read together with the current Guild's Constitution which was circulated to all Dioceses by the previous Secretary, Bro. Lindile Batwa in 2015 via e-mail.

The Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures were presented by the Legal Advisor Commission in the Lesotho PCM of March 2017, the documents were referred back to the portfolio for content review.

8 Support to Dioceses

The meetings of PEXCO are pre-arranged (as alluded in section 4 of the report) in a manner that would assist it to reach out to as many Dioceses as it possibly can. The Agenda of these meetings is standard and it assist the PEXCO in a great deal to identify strong and weak points, opportunities, challenges and solutions. In the last three years PEXCO has been able to meet with the following Diocesan Executives:

- Umzimvubu
- Kimberly and Kuruman
- Cape Town
- Grahamstown
- Free State

Dioceses that have hosted PCMs over the past three (3) years have been engaged via constant emails and telephone calls. All communication has been done timeously and responding to all questions of clarities on time. All Dioceses are afforded an opportunity to host an efficient, effective and affordable meeting the way they know best,

Support has been provided to the Diocese of Umzimvubu, which presented challenges that were more structural, the Diocese was also informed that the Guild will only be able to provide moral and visibility support.

Support has also been provided to the Diocese of St. Mark, the Diocese was launched in 2013 and not much of support was provided to make sure that they understand the culture and processes of the Guild. That has led to a point where the Diocese became dysfunctional. PEXCO requested the Diocese of Johannesburg together with the Treasurer to attend to the challenge faced by the Diocese and the George PCM resolved that the Dioceses of Johannesburg, Pretoria and Highveld to support administratively and otherwise on behalf of PEXCO and the Guild at large until such a time that the Diocese can prove it can function on its own. Support given to Dioceses also included when there were bereavements that were formally reported to PEXCO and as such support has been given to

Dioceses of False Bay, Grahamstown, Highveld and many more others that are not mentioned in this report.

9 Lost Contact

In 2013/2014 it would be remembered that the Guild had garnered membership of Diocese of Namibia and Diocese of Angola. This support was as a result of the visits by the previous President and the Chairman of the Guild. The Angolan trip was initiated and encouraged by the Archbishop who was also visiting the said Diocese at the time. The Diocese of Namibia attended the 2014 Conference and it took part in all processes of the Conference including entertaining the Conference with their amaDodana Choir.

The two Dioceses did not attend any of the other meetings that were planned and even failed to submit written apologies. A failure to attend and respond to continued invitations led to a loss of the contacts and the contact persons in these Dioceses. The untimely death of Bishop Nathaniel who was the previous Liaison Bishop of the Guild also catalyzed the unfortunate loss of contact with the Diocese of Namibia. It cannot be certainly said that the loss of contact to the Diocese of Angola was as a result of the promise that was not fulfilled, the Angolan Appeal.

10 The Angolan Appeal

The floods that struck Angola in 2013 necessitated the Archbishop to make a call through Hope Africa that all Anglican Organisations, Community Based Organisations and many others to donate to victims of floods. The Guild resolved that all Dioceses need to contribute financially and with clothing towards the Archbishop's call. The PCM resolved that each Diocese must contribute R 5 000.00 and clothing towards the project. The clothes were to be shipped to Angola and the money collected was to be paid to the Diocese of Angola.

Plans to ship the clothing to Angola were expedited including writing to the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans and a formal letter was written a letter Minister Nqakula's office. The Mbashe PCM resolved that the three Dioceses in the Western Cape, Cape Town, Saldanha and False Bay must examine the condition of the clothing, prepare it and donate it to any Community Based Organisation or a group of needy people.

The Diocese of Cape Town wrote a letter informing PEXCO that they have checked the clothing and they have salvaged some of the clothing and they have donated to St. Columba and Eluvukweni all the clothing they could recoup. Dioceses that have paid their contribution towards the Angolan Appeal were to be identified and they were to be refunded by crediting them in future monetary commitments.

It is necessary to add that emails were sent to all the DEXCO members of the diocese of Angola to provide an address to which these clothes could be sent to. The diocese never provided same. We were then advised by the Archbishop's office to rather send them to their diocesan bishop's office.

11 The Liaison Bishop

The Synod of Bishops nominated Bishop Steve of the Diocese of Johannesburg to be the Liaison Bishop of all Men's Guilds within ACSA including St. Bernard Mizeki. The Liaison Bishop has been formally introduced to the membership in the Mbashe PCM, September 2016.

12 Guild's Website

The Guild introduced its own website in 2012, www.bernardmizeki.co.za and was hosted at a very low cost which was not more than R 250/annum. The previous host though it was affordable but it had a number of limitations such as space for data storage, folder creation, creation of links, loading of information and owning the information.

In 2014 the Guild re-launched the website with a new look and new host. The website of the Guild has been rebranded as www.bernardmizeki.org.za and hosted by Growing the Church. The annual fee for hosting the Guild's website is R 3 500.00/annum. The browser is fast, never blackouts and has no limitation. The Guild owns the data loaded on the website, editions and changes on the current website are being administered by the Guild. The launch of the website was to ensure better

dissemination of important documents such as notices, minutes, agendas, programmes and correspondence of the Guild. The website was also seen as a contribution of the Guild in encouraging green environment. The website is not used by the Guild and the payment of the annual host fee can be deemed a fruitless expenditure. It is encouraged that the incoming PEXCO to consider utilizing the website and take advantage of the benefits it brings such as email addresses that it can host, portfolio information and Diocesan information.

13 Financial Matters

PEXCO appreciates the cooperation of dioceses on the decision to do away with the R1000 appeal and replace it with R2000 Annual Fee. We are happy to note that this decision was taken with great encouraging optimism by dioceses. This initiative has more than double the performance from what was termed the appeal. The proper noise and excitement created to back the spiritual enthusiasm behind has also assisted us to ensure that most diocese are on board in ensuring that this amount is paid over on time (in January of each year). We wish that this conference would ratify that as a conference decision whilst noting that PCM actually paved the way to ensure that this decision is implemented ahead of consideration by conference.

Such cooperation was clearly noted to have rubbed off on all other annual payments that dioceses are expected to pay over to the province. The financial will depict a great improvement over the last four year in cooperation from our dioceses with all the standard payments such as Annual fees, Subscription, etc. The Subs have grown substantially from about R70 000 in 2014 to over R111 000 in 2016. The Annual fees / appeal have grown from R13 000 in 2015 to almost R40 000 in 2017. We are monitoring the numbers in 2017 in the above items with the expectation that the membership of the guild will reach 4000 in numbers and R120 000 in value at R30.

However PEXCO remains concerned with element of 'giving' during collection at our services. The collection from ootata has been far from pleasing. This raises a sharp concern as this we are the heads of our churches and households. One wonders whether the teaching on 'giving' is finding resonance with us and whether we are able to be entrusted to teaching younger generations about the importance of giving in church broadly. We invite you to note this item in the financial report and actually consider if a congregation of 180 – 200 fathers can give so little for the work of the LOD. It is worrying to note that (on average) we put between R3 and R5.88 on a given service.

PEXCO would like to bring the following specific and technical matters for the consideration and for conference to resolve:

A. Financial year end

One of the Treasury commission considered the confusion around matters of financial year end of the guild. This has resulted in dioceses interpreting this matter differently and led to inconsistent payment patterns wherein some have arguably skipped some annual payments. The biggest confusion centres around 'double-barrel' years.

We wish to make a clear financial proposal for conference to actually pronounce that the guild financial year to be a calendar year (January to December). This should be confused with importance of our June 18 Bernard Mizeki day. However this day should be confused to the start or end of the guild financial year. Payment deadlines may be set around important days like these however these must not be confused to determine the financial year end. With this, we therefore also propose that payment should be referenced for that specific year (i.e. no double-barrel years).

B. Reporting period

The reporting period has also been raised as a concern when we engaged with the current accounting officer. For example the financial report before this conference covers 4 years (2014 – 2017), and this is outside the generally acceptable financial standards. It is unprecedented for an organisation to be reporting in this manner. The expectation is that reports of this nature should be made over 1 (annual)

or 2 years, at most 3 year period. It seems no professional auditor or accounting officer would want to be associated with matters contrary to financial standards.

We therefore propose that; at this beginning of each calendar year, PEXCO prepares and present (to the first session of PCM) a signed-off Annual Financial Statement, Statement of Income and Expenditure or Financial Report. These could be signed off, reported and filed while harmonising financial incongruity within the guild. Conferences would then focus more on financial regulatory matters than numbers.

C. Audit processes

The conference has to debate and pronounce on the constitutional requirement for audited report. Perhaps financial people within the guild should provide advice on which of the processes the guild should be following given its financial activities and the nature with which these are performed. The guild may have to indicate whether it wants an auditor or accounting officer, financial statements or Statement of Income and Expenses, at what cost, etc. Whichever way this conference pronounces on this, each conference must clearly pronounce on the process of nomination the Accounting Officer / Auditor to oversee the books of the guild for the following term. It should not be left to the incoming Treasurer to decide on the above finance questions and on the individual who looks at the books only on the eve of conference.

D. Increase in subs

Noting the concerned raised by this PEXCO in second PCM of the term regarding the 'sustainability' of the guild, we propose an increase in Subs from the new term of office.

We have been operating on R30 per member for more than 6 years. This matter was once raised in the February 2015 PCM in Port Shepstone when it seems some dioceses thought that this has already increased to R50 – and the diocese of PE had actually paid the R50 in this regard. Even though members on the day were in agreement that the last conference should have entertained the proposal that PCM reiterated that the decision was a conference decision and could not be made by the PCM.

E. Hosting of PEXCO meetings

We also wish to thank the dioceses that have assisted PEXCO with its meeting. We appealed to dioceses to assist with some of the costs of hosting PEXCO meeting such as accommodation and catering. This has actually saved a lot of funds that would have been incurred by the guild. We think the conference should consider standardising the cost formula on hosting PEXCO meetings.

14 Conclusion

The outgoing Provincial Executive would like to take this opportunity to thank the Guild at large for entrusting it with the responsibility to assist it with clear directives and sober leadership in the past three (3) years. The term could not have been an easy one if it was not for Provincial Council, your prayers and the love of Christ, your support could not go unnoticed. There were meetings which were hostile and there were times where it seemed that there is no progress at all, but it is through robust engagements that we are here today, hosting a successful conference and priding ourselves for all the milestones we have achieved. It is also PEXCO's submission that PEXCO could have done much more but limited resources at its disposal have disarmed it.

The Guild has the potential to grow, it is this reason that the outgoing PEXCO recommends:

- that this conference resolved in simple terms what is the core business of this Guild
- that this conference advise the incoming PEXCO on fundraising efforts for the next term, formulating fundraising mechanisms with projections and consider re-negotiating with Genlife
- that this conference mandate the incoming PEXCO to ascertain that this Guild will support COTT as per the Lesotho PCM resolution by drafting an MOU that will be binding to both the Guild and the College
- that this conference mandate the incoming PEXCO to finalise the following documents:
 - i. Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures

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- ii. Registration of the Guild's Logo and drafting of a Regulating Policy
- iii. Subsistence and Traveling Policy
- iv. Elections and Motions Procedures
- that this conference mandate the incoming Executive to further expedite the writing of the Guild's Book, taking it from where the outgoing Executive has left off
- that this conference finalise a PCM resolution, that after the 18th Triennial Conference there will only be one PCM per annum, the conference must give a clear directive as to when will it host the PCM, for how many days, the number of delegates per Diocese
- that this conference thank the Diocese of Cape Town for the Eucharist Elements they donated to the Guild in the Mbashe PCM
- And lastly that the conference take cognizance of this report in its entirety.

On Behalf of PEXCO

F Maki
Provincial Secretary and Communications Officer
St. Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild